



April 2021

Volume 43 Issue 4

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

Beautification

Pam Parks

Our pocket parks, like our yards, took a hit during the "Valentine's Day Chill". Most of our plantings did pretty well because of the long-standing practice of selecting plants for our climate and location. We also managed to protect six irrigation systems from serious damage. Short work days are getting booked for each of the parks to remove what won't recover. Watch for work day signs posted in the parks if you would like to volunteer with us. These work days will be for a few hours on Saturday mornings starting at 9:00.

In March/April, we will have our mowing service switch out mowing for other tasks. The idea is to keep up with trash removal for the parks that need it and to give us some flexibility to deal with some bigger chores. We plan a stump removal at the Rose Garden, removal of freeze damaged plant material at Gazebo Park, and clearing the drainage culverts on the school side of Sue Barnett where leaf litter has caused street flooding.

Park by Park Updates

Rose Garden – Trees got some much-needed pruning in late February. Ella Sailors, senior at the Energy Institute H.S., will be doing a class project to design, build, and install a Rain Garden. Her garden will be located at the small island located at the east end of the Rose Garden.

Friendship Garden – A work day was completed in March, and the park will soon have a completely reworked set of valves for its irrigation system.

Triangle Park – The area continues to recover from the rework of Alba, which over steepened the area along Alba. We are watching for erosion and anticipating the need for installing landscape blocks.

Gazebo Park – The park got most of its attention on the drawing board. The city's planned drainage project on Sue Barnett included a sidewalk on the park. The Civic Club is seeking a waiver for the sidewalk on the east side

Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting (Virtual)

Tuesday, April 6, 7 pm

Meeting ID: 853 8370 1841

Passcode: 505892

Speaker: Robert Glaze, Community Garden

of the street but also has made a proposal to substitute a permeable pavement on the park if the waiver is denied. One of our Gazebo Park Captains, Ahren Lacey, has recently moved north to Shepherd Park Plaza. Ahren did a great job for us but did manage to escape before finding us his replacement!

Art Park – The installation of wild flowers on the hillock is coming along quite nicely. Before the big chill a number of early bloomers had already made an appearance. Keep your eye out for new blossoms here.

Randall Berm and the Esplanade on W 43rd near Ella – They also have plantings of wildflowers. The Berm planting is several months further along than the one on W 43rd which had to be replanted in March.

Garden Oaks Blvd Esplanade – There is a new signal box at Shepherd. Now that the wrecked box has been replaced, we have been removing some old photinias and other volunteer shrubs from around the box in preparation for a mini mural. The students at GOMM will be participating in the mural design.

Entrance Signs at ten locations in the neighborhood are in various stages of disrepair. The Rose Garden entrance sign is currently in the worst shape and will be first up for attention. We are looking at changing up some of the trim detail to reduce the need for maintenance.

If you would like to join a team contact me or select from one of these existing teams. Note that I have listed parks more or less in order of need:

Randall Berm (Durham @ W. 30th) – Vacant Captain position (Beautification@gardenoaks.org)

Continued on page 3

Garden Oaks Civic Club Business Members

Welcome to the following neighbors and neighborhood businesses who joined our new Business Membership Program. Thanks for your support!

Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan

Verde Wealth Group

Erin Thole, CNHP – Thole Wellness, LLC

Harry James Building + Design

John Bartos, Attorney at Law

Delarco Designs & Construction, LLC

Plonk! Beer & Wine Bistro

IndyQuest Properties, LLC

Central City Air

The Law Offices of Hilda Sibrian

The Rice Organization, Inc.

Southern Sprinkler & Drainage

Terry Jeanes, Realtor – Led Well Realty

Frost Bank

Civic Club Officers

President – Tonya Knauth 713 396 0876
986 Gardenia president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Kevin David 713 686 5903
826 Azalea vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Paul Vincent 713 834 7248
742 West 41st treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – Beth Jackson 870 816 0774
851 West 43rd secretary@gardenoaks.org

Committee Chairs

Beautification – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
beautification@gardenoaks.org

Citizen Patrol – Mark Saranie 713 724 1271
235 West 33rd gocop@gardenoaks.org

Constable Program – Terry Jeanes 281 236 8033
922 West 41st constable@gardenoaks.org

Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505
733 West 42nd membership@gardenoaks.org

Social Media – John Alvar 713 775 0365
social@gardenoaks.org

Webmaster – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
webmaster@gardenoaks.org

Gazette Contacts

Editor – Joe Muscara 713 691 6833
750 Sue Barnett gazette@gardenoaks.org

Advertising Director – Brenda de Alba 713 705 0886
744 West 43rd gazetteads@gardenoaks.org

Delivery Coordinator – Lori Kennedy 713 691 6833
750 Sue Barnett gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org

The Garden Oaks *Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published monthly. The submission deadline to the editor is 11:59 PM of the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted.

Publication of any article or letter does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

Article Submission Guidelines

1. **MS Word or text document as an attachment** (not the body of the email), left justified, no headers or footers. Keep formatting to a minimum.
2. **Photos need to be sent separately.** You may embed photos to show where they go with the article but separate full size and resolution photos must also be provided outside of the document.
3. **Articles should be titled.** These can be as simple as the name of the committee or event, but a concise title should be provided for other articles.

Parks—Continued from front cover

Art Park (Sue Barnett @ W. 43rd) – Shawn and Bill Spear
(Beautification@gardenoaks.org)

W 43rd Esplanade (Ella @ W. 43rd) – Teresa Coleman
(teresa.ann.coleman@icloud.com)

Gazebo Park (Sue Barnett @ Lamonte) – Co-Captain Rayford Irvin
(rayford.irvin@gmail.com) is really keen to be joined by someone to Co-Captain this park. Preference will be given to ages 6-106!

Garden Oaks Esplanade (Garden Oaks Blvd.) – Shana Tatum
(shanatatum@icloud.com) & Jonathan Morgan (jonathanlmorgan@gmail.com)

Rose Garden (Lawrence & W. 34th) – Brenda de Alba (albagarden@yahoo.com)
& Sheila Briones (sbriones@hotmail.com)

Triangle Park (Alba @ Azalea) – Tina Nieto (t-nieto@att.net)

Friendship Garden (Lawrence @ W. 30th) – The Garden Club (t-nieto@att.net)

Donors wishing to contribute to the Park Projects are urged to Pick a (Pocket) Park on this page: <https://www.gardenoaks.org/gocc-home/payments/beautification-projects/>

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

Welcome to our new patrol deputy, Gregory Nowling.

Have you supported the Constable Program in 2021 yet?

We need you! You can pay online at gardenoaks.org or mail in the form in this newsletter. **Payment of at least \$250 per household will get you a GO Constable Supporter sign. As we go to press, we have some 275 Constable Supporters, and we are targeting 400. If you need a new sign or a 2021 sticker, email constable@gardenoaks.org.**

Reminder: The Constable Program is paid only by residents' contributions. **There is no mandatory fee collected.**

Pay your dues today. Why wait until you become a crime victim before contributing?

Become a Constable Program Supporter: gardenoaks.org

Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>

Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>



Residential Remodeling Custom Home Building
713.443.1701



CHRIS AND MATT SCHMIDT
Family owned and operated since 2006
www.SCMTexas.com

SUE SCHMIDT
REALTOR



Garden Oaks Resident and Supporter
281-563-3402
Over 30 years experience!



Texas Monthly Five Star Realtor for 6 years
www.GetSoldOnHouston.com



713.692.2020
3820 North Shepherd
Houston, Texas 77018
www.brotherspizzeriahouston.com

www.heightsskin.com



HEIGHTS DERMATOLOGY
713-864-2659
2120 Ashland St. • Houston, TX 77008

Serving Garden Oaks since 1987



Luxury Lawns
AND LANDSCAPING

Landscape Design and Installation
Sprinkler System
Installation & Repair
Drainage Systems
Full Service Lawn Maintenance
Stonework
Water Features
Landscape Lighting

Family Owned and Operated
References Available
Satisfaction Guaranteed

FREE ESTIMATES
DAVID BARTULA
713.688.4244
Insured for your protection LI 7049




Owners
Chris and Joy Shute

Servicing all makes and models
Family owned and operated
2Y/24K Mile Warranty

400 West Crosstimbers St.
Houston, TX 77018
(832) 409-6621
openroadautorepair.com

Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a Civic Club meeting soon.

4315 Alba	4310 Apollo	1038 Gardenia	1075 Gardenia
943 Lamonte	235 W. 30th	331 W. 32nd	336 W. 34th
737 W. 42nd	768 W. 42nd	958 W. 43rd	1035 W. 43rd

Happy Birthday

Kiran B – 4/2	Devin Hunter – 4/6	Kylie S – 4/7
Keith Kostelecky – 4/9	Reid S – 4/9	Melissa Neiser – 4/10
Mansi Patel – 4/12	Daniel Sanborn – 4/12	Anna M – 4/15
Lily Bowman – 4/18	Leyton C – 4/21	Leslie Ryan – 4/21
Nicholas M – 4/26	Jim Tucker – 4/28	Wade M – 4/30

Happy Anniversary

Tina Sabuco & Shellye Arnold – 4/6

Out and About

The Carlins enjoyed visiting family in Brooklyn NY. It was Cancun for **the Murphys** over spring break. **Heather McKeown & crew** were in Golden, Colorado.

The Shamblens visited Little Rock and Branson. **The Salches** enjoyed time at Last Chance Ranch with day trips to Brenham and Waco. **The Dilleys** checked out some new digs at Canyon Lake. **The Theriots** RVed with kayaking and hiking in the Big Thicket National Preserve and then 4 wheeling in Louisiana.

The Cracknells headed west to Marfa and Terlingua. **The Goads** enjoyed Yogi Bear Jelly Stone Park. It was Leadville, Colorado for the **Taylors**, while the **Martin family** opted for Buena Vista, Colorado.

Scot Matney and Terry Jeanes, both volunteers with HLSR Breeders Greeters, spent time with the Jr. Exhibitors at the Private Livestock Show 2021. Special times for Terry included working with her nephew, a fellow BG member, and great niece and nephew exhibitors showing lambs, poultry, and pigs.

Special Thoughts for the Salch family in their recent losses: the loss of Megan's dad, Lorn Frazier, who was raised in Garden Oaks. Also for the loss of Dutch, their older dog.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com.

Citizen Patrol

Mark Saranie, Program Chair

Happy Easter everyone! This year is just hopping along at what feels like an unusually fast clip, doesn't it? Fortunately, crimes in our neighborhood have come to a near standstill the last two months. It's humbling to zoom out on the crime map and see what is happening around our neighborhood.

With our state opening slowly, more of us might be returning to the office, emptying our homes, and opening up vulnerabilities during the day. The constable program is in need of everyone's help. Out of 1400 homes in our neighborhood, a goal of 400 participants is not all that large but the uphill battle to get there seems unsurmountable for some reason. Protect your family and home and become a constable supporter, every year. Sign up at gardenoaks.org.

Interested in being part of our Citizen Patrol team? Email me at gocop@gardenoaks.org with your name and email. This will be forwarded to the HPD officer in charge of the program who in turn will reach out to you with the application. Requirements are that you be 18 years old, live in Garden Oaks, be proper, and can pass a background check.

January 2021 Stats

25th, 6 pm, 600 block W. 34th – Breaking and entering

6 reported patrol hours

February 2021 Stats

9.5 reported patrol hours

Constable Stats February 2021

Data are provided monthly for the contract with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputy who patrols Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

Our deputy is following CDC guidelines and social distancing on the street as well as in the office. The deputy is equipped with PPE so you may see him/her wearing masks to avoid exposure.

- Alarm Call – 6
- Assault – Family – 1
- Check Park – 2
- Contract Check – 54
- Disturbance Loud Noise/Other – 2
- Follow Up – 2
- Information Call – 1

- Meet the Citizen – 10
- Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 9
- Traffic Initiative – 2
- Traffic Stop – 5
- Vacation Watch – 3
- Warrant Service – 2
- Welfare Check – 1



TERRY JEANES
 Your Neighbor & Real Estate Specialist
 Giving back to Garden Oaks since 1984
 281.236.8033
terry@terryjeanes.com
 LED WELL REALTY



**NEW HOMES
 RE-DESIGNS
 RENOVATIONS
 COST+ PLANS
 D-I-Y CONSULTING**
 SERVING GARDEN OAKS
 FOR FOUR DECADES
 713.695.7007
HARRYJAMESBUILDER.COM



Providing friendly 'Hoepfl' service to families since 1946

We're in the neighborhood!

Monday - Friday
 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
 Saturdays
 8:00AM - 4:00 PM
 4610 N. Shepherd Dr.



CALL 713.695.5071
 Sybren and Kathryn van der Pol (owners)
TheLibertyGarage.com

GOMM Milestones and Celebrations

Lindsey Pollock, Ed.D., Principal, Garden Oaks Montessori

During the past year, we have been inundated with difficulties. I thought we might all enjoy a look at the tremendous milestones we have achieved at Garden Oaks over the past 13 years! In the words of Dr. Montessori, "We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity." —*To Educate the Human Potential*. We have grown together and have accomplished so much since 2008 when I arrived at Garden Oaks that summer! Here are some celebrations for our school and community:

2008 - 2009: We had 405 students enrolled and were on the HISD list for possible closure. We were a traditional campus with a small Montessori program, a school within a school model.

2009 - 2010: We worked to market the school to our neighborhood and added the Environmental Science emphasis to bring our school faculty together. Our enrollment jumped to 500. We improved the campus security and installed the fence around the school

playground/Spark Park. HISD announced that Garden Oaks would become an all - Montessori campus and we worked on the MSAP grant. We worked with the National Tennis Association to install the Quick Start Tennis Court.

2010 - 2011: The MSAP grant provided us \$3M to convert to an all - Montessori campus. Truckloads of furniture and materials arrived for our new classrooms, while our teachers and staff attended credentialing courses. Together, parents, students and staff set up class after class.

2010 - 2014: Slow transition to all Montessori. Each year we added more Montessori classes and discontinued traditional classes. During this time, we were twice recognized as a Magnet School of Distinction by the Magnet Schools of America.

2012: Bond Election – 2 years of planning sessions started for Garden Oaks, leading to the \$30M construction project to add 65,000 square feet and completely renovate all remaining existing spaces.



DelArco Designs & Construction, LLC
Inspired Designs, Creative Construction, Functional Living



Residential & Commercial
Remodeling
&
Design/Build
from concept to completion

Call us to learn how we work.

713.659.9098

info@delarcodesigns.com

www.delarcodesigns.com

2013: Recognized by the Human Rights Campaign with the Leadership Award for work implementing Welcoming Schools to embrace our LGBTQ families and students. Our work campus-wide became a national exemplar for Social Justice.

2014: Dr Pollock named an HISD Principal of the Year finalist.

2016 - 2019: Campus CONSTRUCTION!!!! We moved every class to multiple locations during the course of the project while increasing enrollment on campus.

2017: We were the host school for the national Montessori for Social Justice conference. Waltrip HS provided the site. Members of the community and our PTO worked to welcome Montessorians from all over the country!

2018: Ms. Harlan was recognized as an HISD Teacher of the Year finalist.

2019: Pocket Prairie installation and Monarch Garden established on campus.

Fall 2020: We started the year with nearly 900 students. Today, we have 819 students enrolled and project that we will be fully enrolled again in the fall of 2021.

Fall 2020: We became the **FIRST Montessori ACCREDITED** public Montessori school in the State of TEXAS!!

2020: Honor Roll School of Distinction for closing achievement gaps in Science and Math.

We have many more celebrations ahead and look forward to the continued growth and successes of our program and our community! April 16th will be our PTO Un-Gala at the Wakefield Crowbar. Join us for online bidding or at our first in-person event since COVID! Go to <https://gopto.org/> for tickets and bidding information.

Please support our advertisers who support our neighborhood. Tell them you saw their ad in the *Gazette!*



Investor Coaching Series

Structured vs. Retail Index Funds

Investors often confuse structured investing with indexed or passive strategies, in this session you will uncover the difference a structured approach makes in your long-term investing strategy.

April 29, 2021

Begins at 6:30 PM at Tony's

3755 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX 77046

If you have any questions, please contact christine.garrity@wealthdesigngroup.net or call 281.220.2700.

Mark Connelly, Dale Pieper, and Justin Makris are Registered Representatives and Financial Advisors of Park Avenue Securities LLC (PAS). OSJ: 3040 Post Oak Blvd, Ste 1150, Houston, Texas 77056, 281-220-2700. Securities products and advisory services offered through PAS, member FINRA, SIPC. Financial Representative of The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America® (Guardian), New York, NY. PAS is a wholly owned subsidiary of Guardian. Rethink Wealth is not an affiliate or subsidiary of PAS or Guardian. Mark Connelly CA License # OD04370 ARK License # 1301962/ Dale Pieper CA License # 0L81995/ Justin Markis CA Insurance License #0J11023 2021-115936 Exp. 04/30/2021

Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting Minutes

Beth Jackson, Secretary

February 2, 2021 via Zoom

GOCC President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held remotely to adhere to ongoing pandemic protocols. Tonya noted that in place of a guest speaker this month, there would be a discussion around sidewalks in Garden Oaks.

The question at hand: Should the GOCC apply for a modification to the City of Houston's Capital Improvement Plan for drainage and pavement (phase 3) proposal for two sidewalks on Sue Barnett in support of limiting the sidewalk to only one side of Sue Barnett from W. 43rd south to W. 38th? A 2014 survey conducted by the GOCC to gauge support for sidewalks gave residents and property owners an opportunity to voice input to the City of Houston on the rebuilding of Alba and Golf specifically regarding sidewalks. The proposed plans can be viewed online at <https://www.gardenoaks.org/gocc-home/neighborhood-info/streetwork/>.

The January 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

Returning to the sidewalk issue, discussion ensued with speakers registered in the chat. Vic Seghers suggested filing a formal modification application with the City in favor of one sidewalk, not two, along Sue Barnett between 43rd and 38th. Eric Thibodeaux spoke out in favor of one sidewalk, preferably on the west side of Sue Barnett. Jeff Martin spoke out as a proponent of sidewalks, as did Chris Lindsay. Others noted that most of Garden Oaks does not have sidewalks and wondered if this would disrupt the overall look of the neighborhood.

Vic Seghers made a motion to file a formal application and pay the requisite fee up to \$1,500 to modify the proposed Gardens Oaks phase 3 drainage and paving project to include only a single sidewalk on the west side of Sue Barnett Drive. Terry Jeanes seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed.

Continuing, Pam Parks noted that potential sidewalks on the east side of Sue Barnett would have an impact on the Gazebo Park, specifically the crepe myrtle trees lining the street. She suggested an alternative of a crushed gravel surface instead of paved concrete, running behind the crepe myrtle trees along Sue Barnett through the park. Discussion followed with a close examination of the existing plans. Tonya offered to contact the City for clarification on the current designs for Gazebo Park and report back at a subsequent GOCC meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Paul Vincent said GOCC is transferring bank accounts from Wells Fargo to Frost Bank on Shepherd, a business member of GOCC. Current financials will be published in the *Gazette*, and thus far in 2021 we are tracking well with the previous year's contributions. The constable collections and *Gazette* advertising are down a bit, but all other areas are trending to budget.

Committee Reports

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes said the Constable program has 239 paid supporters, up from 194 in January. She encouraged residents to pay their annual membership online, and she put out a call for volunteers to help manage the program.

Beautification: Pam Parks said we will be getting a mini-mural, funded by the City, at the signal box at GO Boulevard and N. Shepherd. The Alba entrance sign has been repaired and reinstalled. Tree work will continue at the Rose Garden and Friendship Garden in February.

GardenOaks.org: The 2021 neighborhood survey has 80 responses thus far. Pam Parks asked for feedback as it provides direction for activities of GOCC in the current year. The survey window closes on February 21st, and Pam hopes to report results at the March or April meeting.

GO Citizens Patrol: In Mark Saranie's absence, Tonya noted the need for patrol volunteers.

Membership: Dian Austin said we have 224 paid GOCC members, up from 166 in January 2021. Plus, 14 businesses have joined under the new business membership program. Tina Rowe and her team are delivering welcome packets this month. Information

included in the new neighbor welcome packets is also available online.

Julie Maddox was the lucky recipient of a \$25 Amazon gift card at the monthly raffle. Thanks to Jan and David Garver for donating this month's prize.

Social Media: Tonya delivered John Alvar's report. We are working to provide the survey link through the official Garden Oaks social media platforms. We are also partnering with the Oak Forest social media committee on issues and events applicable to both neighborhoods. Social media will also be used to help the community garden raise funds.

Government Affairs: Tonya said that we are enjoying a good relationship with the newly elected state representatives and city council members.

Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet: Dr. Pollock, Principal of GOMM, was not present, so no report was given.

Old Business: Chris Lindsay asked about a potential fundraiser to support the community garden. A group is trying to raise funds to make that a revenue neutral program of GOCC.

New Business: Terry Jeanes mentioned the recent graffiti on the vacant Sears building. Beth Jackson is trying to track down the current owners to encourage them to utilize historic tax credits and incentives in reusing the building. Terry and Beth will work together to identify and approach the owners.

The next GOCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm via the Zoom application. Guest speaker will be a representative from Councilwoman Abbie Kamin's office.

The February 2021 virtual meeting of the GOCC was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Emergency Numbers	
Crimes in progress, fire, or ambulance	911
HPD (Non-Emergency)	713-884-3131
Precinct One Constable Dispatch	713-755-7628
All Other City Services	311



Garden Oaks Civic Club March Minutes

Beth Jackson, Secretary

March 2, 2021 via Zoom

GOCC President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm, joined by approximately 20 participants. Tonya acknowledged the recent winter storm that affected everyone in neighborhood and residual issues many are still facing.

The February meeting minutes could not be transmitted during the storm, so they will be published in the April *Gazette* and approved at the April GOCC meeting.

Tonya introduced Houston Police Officer Butterfras with the Department's Differential Response Team. This unit, which works to reduce crime and increase quality of life, addresses diverse problems such as unkept lots, residential improprieties, apartment complex ordinance violations, environmental lawlessness, and business licensing regulations. Officer Butterfras will be our contact for these issues in the Garden Oaks area, and we are grateful to have a face and a name at HPD to contact if needed.

The guest speaker was Julia Retta, from Council Member Abbie Kamin's office. Ms. Retta serves as Chief of Staff to the Council Member, whose District C includes Garden Oaks. Council Member Kamin was expecting the birth of a child and asked her staff to participate on her behalf, including Scheduler and Public Affairs Coordinator, Ashely Campbell.

Council Member Abbie Kamin and the District C staff are available if you have any questions or issues navigating City services. Please feel free to contact them:

Phone: 832-393-3004

Email: districtc@houstontx.gov

Newsletter: <http://bit.ly/distcnews>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cmabbiekamin>

Ms. Retta shared that the District C office has been focused on emergency response and disaster relief efforts over the past few weeks. There is still a lot of need for food, water, and supplies for families, seniors,

businesses, and schools. If you know of anyone in need, please contact the Council Member's office.

CoH's Public Works Department has been working on a way to provide relief for residents with high water bills due to the freeze, and they will be announcing relief details on March 3. The Council Member suggests that residents with high water bills only pay the amount of your last month's bill regardless of what your water bill is for this month. You must pay your bill, but don't feel like you have to pay the full amount if it is higher than usual. She will share details of the relief plan via the District C newsletter and social media.

The City is suspending the regular schedule for heavy waste and storm debris pick up. Contact 3-1-1 regarding storm debris removal and place it out for pick up. Please review the placement guidelines: <http://bit.ly/COHstormdebris>. FEMA relief is also available for our area to help, even if you have insurance. Finally on the storm and recovery front, there is a joint City of Houston-Harris County effort to provide relief for people in need and or those who would like to donate to help others.

Despite Governor Abbott's lifting of COVID-19 mask requirements, the City of Houston will continue to require masks and social distancing at all City buildings and events. There is a great effort underway to vaccinate all, but we are still not out of the woods. The City's COVID-19 vaccine waitlist is now open to all age groups that qualify under the state's criteria for 1A and 1B – people 65 and older and people 16 and older with chronic health conditions. People who meet the criteria can register for the waitlist online at HoustonEmergency.org/covid19. Registration is also available by phone to people age 60 and older through the Area Agency on Aging at 832-393-4301. People with disabilities can call the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 832-393-5500. Anyone else needing registration assistance can contact the COVID-19 call center at 832-393-4220.

Because of federal government support, NRG Park is now vaccinating 6,000 people a day, 7 days a week for the next three weeks, then pivoting to second doses. Learn about new appointment opportunities through email, text message, voice call, or mobile app push notification by registering for the HoustonRecovers subscription of AlertHouston: <https://houstonsemergency.org/alerts/>.

Ms. Retta noted that the Garden Oaks/Shepherd Park Capital Improvement Project for Golf Drive drainage and pavement is moving forward. There is no firm timeline on construction as the contract has not yet been awarded. A public engagement meeting with construction details will be scheduled once a contract has been awarded. The same public engagement meeting will also include a separate conversation about sidewalks in Garden Oaks per the City’s new walkability requirements. For more details on the Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park CIP: https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/garden_oaks_and_shepherd_park_west.

And finally, the District C representative reported on the progress of safety measures at crossings near our neighborhood school, Frank Black Middle School. The addition of signage and signals are in the works at the Ella and Thornton as well as the Ella and Wakefield intersections.

Treasurer’s Report

Paul Vincent said that both revenue and expenses are on track with our annual budget for the first 3 months of the year, and both are trending close to revenue and

expenses from 2020. Specifically for the Constable fund, we are hopeful that the Wine Walk will once again be possible later in the year, and if so, we are on track to cover the expense for the one Constable with which we are currently contracted. All financial figures are available online at GardenOaks.org.

Committee Reports

Constable Program: Tonya gave the report for Chairperson Terry Jeanes, asking all residents to please pay the Constable program supporter dues of \$250 for the year. It has been reasonably quiet in neighborhood this past month. Ms. Jeanes is looking for members to add to her team. Some ideas being floated around are neighborhood spirit nights benefitting the constable program. As the Wine Walk has raised \$30,000 for the Constable program in past years, we are very hopeful that we can host that event in 2021.

Beautification: Pam Parks reported that a high school student and neighbor Ella Sailors has made a proposal to create a rain garden in the Rose Garden Section 1. The Sailors family are long term members of the Garden Oaks community, and they are committed to maintain the rain garden. We were mid-project on a complete rebuild of

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1964



Monday - Friday

7:00 am - 6:00 pm

By Appointment Only

Saturday

7:30 am - 11:30 am

Walk-Ins Welcome

Closed Sunday

713.682.6351

OAKFORESTVET.COM

2120 West 34th Street, Between T.C. Jester and Ella

NEW CLIENTS RECEIVE 10% OFF FIRST VISIT

the valve boxes at Friendship Park, when the committee shifted their focus to winterizing prior to the freeze last month. So far, no major issues have been discovered from the storm. Tree work in the Rose Garden and Friendship Park is complete. Pam and her committee will be reaching out to those who volunteered via the GO survey to schedule spring clean-up days. We are shifting our landscape crew to clean out the swale in front of GOMM's Spark Park.

GardenOaks.org: The annual GO survey window has closed and Pam Parks hopes to get results out in late March. The attorney for GOMO shared 125 legal documents, and several of the most germane have been added to the website under the Bankruptcy tab. There are also updates on the Capital Improvement Project scheduled for Sue Barnett on the website.

GO Citizens Patrol: Mark Saranie had no report this month. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Mr. Saranie.

Membership: Tonya gave Dian Austin's report to include that GOCC membership currently stands at 246 paid members, with 259 paid Constable supporters. Our

newest business member is Common Bond, located at 34th and Shepherd. Tonya acknowledged and thanked all of our business members, highlighting those in attendance. We have had a good response to that new program.

GO Gazette: Joe Muscara noted that the deadline for inclusion in the April Gazette is Monday, March 15th. Please send submissions to gazette@GardenOaks.org.

Social Media: John Alvar reported on lots of online activity and offers of help during the recent winter storm. He is working to make the official Houston Garden Oaks Facebook page to operate as the primary GO Facebook page (vs the other one). Mr. Alvar and his committee are also working with the Oak Forest Facebook page and social media sites to cross post and share pertinent information for our neighborhoods. He wants to highlight business memberships on our GO Instagram page in the coming months. Finally, he has a new recruit to help with Instagram posts and content at events and neighborhood activities.

Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet School: Per Dr. Pollock, 814 students are enrolled currently, about 50%

RATES ARE AT ALL-TIME LOWS

Purchase and Refinance Season is Here!

PURCHASE

- 3% down for First Time Home Buyers up to \$510,400
- 5% down for others up to \$510,400
- 10% down up to \$650,000
- 15% down up to \$1,500,000
- 0% down Physician/Dentist loans

REFINANCE

- Reduce your rate - save money
- Change your term - payoff home quicker
- Cash out - home improvements or other expenditures
- Debt Consolidation - pay-off credit cards, autos, etc.
- Tax benefits



CHRISTINA GOBE
Mortgage Loan Consultant
NMLS# 179895

713-725-7475
christina.gobe@firstunitedbank.com
www.gobeteamhomeloans.com



BANKING

MORTGAGE

INSURANCE

INVESTMENTS

Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS# 400025.

Not FDIC Insured. No Bank Guarantee. May Lose Value.

attending in person. No major damage was noted at school from the freeze. Comments about over enrollment are not correct. Middle school grades 7 and 8 are below capacity. GOMM is at max in all other grade levels. Enrollment was at 890 in August, but with some parents opted for homeschooling, other families moving out of the neighborhood, and some families electing private school enrollment instead, our current enrollment is down. We anticipate many of those families will be back in fall 2021 as restrictions lessen.

Old Business: Tonya reported from the City of Houston that the current plans for the Sue Barnett CIP project do include a 5' sidewalk through Gazebo Park. GOCC will be submitting a modification application to contest the plan for sidewalks on both sides of the street on Sue Barnett from 43rd Street to 38th Street. Pam Parks made a motion to include an alternative proposal in the modification application for a permeable surface through Gazebo Park to protect the established trees on the western edge of the park IF the City denies the request to eliminate the sidewalk on the east side of Sue Barnett. Chris Lindsay seconded the motion, and with no questions and little discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Tonya announced an informational webinar will be held on March 4 via Zoom regarding the proposed multi-family housing development at 909 Fisher Street, just beyond the GO neighborhood boundaries. This will be a public event featuring City and State officials and representatives from the developer SBP. Questions will be taken from participants. GOCC does not have a position on the matter at this stage. Our goal is to collect information and disseminate it to our neighbors.

The April 2021 general meeting of the Garden Oaks Civic Club is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6th, at 7pm via Zoom. Robert Glaze, volunteer for the community garden north of 43rd Street on Alba will be the featured guest speaker.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.



Need someone that speaks fluent insurance?



Aitu Taube, Agent
 1362A W. 43rd St.
 Houston, TX 77018
 Bus: 713-682-3900
 www.aitutaube.com
 Se habla español

I'm your agent for that.

No one wants to pay for unnecessary extras and with my help, you won't have to. I'll help make sure you understand your options, and that you have the best coverage at the best price.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL ME TODAY.





FACUNDO
ARTISAN BUILDERS, INC.



281.235.7375 | FacundoHomeBuilders.com

BUILD TO SUIT | OUR LOT OR YOURS | SE HABLA ESPANOL

LAWN & TREE CARE EQUIPMENT
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS



9860 Aldine Westfield Rd.
Houston TX 77093
713 697 3742
sawhouse.com



OWNED AND OPERATED BY A PROUD GARDEN OAKS RESIDENT.

International Dark Sky Week 2021

International Dark Sky Week 2021 is rapidly approaching! This year, we invite everyone to discover the night during the week of April 5-12.

Every year, the International Dark-Sky Association hosts International Dark Sky Week (IDSW) to raise awareness about light pollution’s many negative effects. It is always held when the sky is darkest and the stars most visible. This annual event was created in 2003 by a then high-school student, Jennifer Barlow. Since then, International Dark Sky Week has grown to become a worldwide event and a key component of Global Astronomy Month. During the week, dark sky defenders worldwide connect over a shared goal to protect the night.

Everyone is invited to join in International Dark Sky Week 2021! Whether you’re an International Dark Sky Place, chapter, delegate, supporter, or a casual follower, there will be ways to engage and participate.

Want updates as more details are released? Join our International Dark Sky Week mailing list to receive a brief email as we release more information. That way, you don’t miss a thing! <https://darksky.salsalabs.org/darkskyweekupdates/index.html>

Or check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/433542878006650>

**The Farmstand of
Greater Heights**
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Every Saturday Rain or Shine
949 Wakefield

Sustainably-grown produce, eggs,
goat cheese, coffee, breakfast tacos and
omelettes, baked goods, jams, and jellies

Gazette Advertising Rates/Sizes/Submission Guidelines

Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 W x 2 3/8 H	\$60.00	\$300.00	\$580.00
2 1/4 W x 4 1/4 H	\$90.00	\$450.00	\$870.00
Half Page 7 1/2 W X 4 1/2 H	\$110.00	\$550.00	\$1065.00
Full Page 7 1/2 W x 9 1/2 H	\$180.00	\$900.00	\$1745.00
Half Page Back Cover	\$150.00	\$750.00	
Full Page Back Cover	\$225.00	\$1125.00	
Full-page insert, single-sided	\$280.00		
Full-page insert, double-sided	\$325.00		

Please note:

1. Placement of ads is subject to the discretion of the editor.
2. Artwork must be e-mailed to gazetteads@gardenoaks.org by the 15th of each month for publication the following month.
3. Artwork may be submitted in one of the following formats: JPEG (.jpg), PDF (.pdf), GIF (.gif) or TIF (.tif).

Leading Orthopedic Care to **KEEP YOU MOVING**

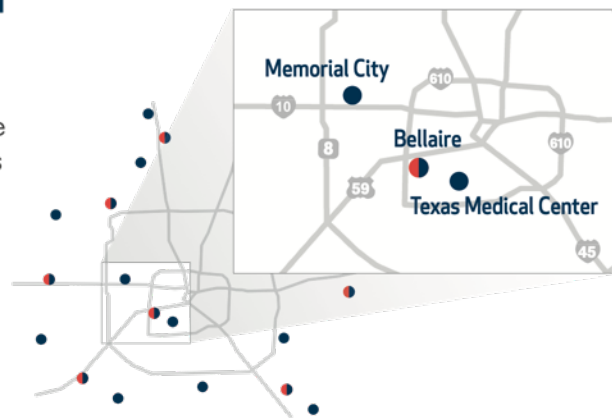


Our sports medicine specialists can help keep your body in motion.

At Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, we know every movement matters. Our board-certified sports medicine specialists offer:

- The latest imaging and technology
- Advanced nonsurgical treatments
- Minimally invasive procedures
- State-of-the-art physical and occupational therapy

Whether you're suffering from simple aches and pains or dealing with a complex injury, we can get you back on your feet — and keep you moving. And, you can be confident that we are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe during your visit.



- Houston Methodist Orthopedic Injury Clinic
- Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine

19 convenient locations across Greater Houston



OFFICIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Same-day appointments for injuries.

Schedule an appointment:
houstonmethodist.org/sportsmed
 713.441.9000

Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

Welcome to April and the second coming. No not that one. I speak of the second coming of baby goats, which is actually just one kid. He will be in attendance, either in the second or third Saturday of the month, weather permitting. One of Farmer Cathy's yearlings unexpectedly gave birth in early February to a handsome boy with the cutest pink nose you've ever seen. So he's aptly named Pinky. Y'all are welcome to bring your kids and get some goat love, and of course adults are welcomed as well.

I joked in a recent Facebook post that our newest vendor Jennifer Reyna of Bloom Bloom Flowers wanted you to know that you need not wait for April showers to enjoy May flowers. At the time of this writing, she's only been with us a couple of weeks, but her mastery of making beautiful arrangements is stunning. So whether you need a little something to brighten up your home or have an upcoming special occasion event, Jennifer's your girl.

Also in market news Elvira has returned to the market with her Mama's homemade tamales and other yummy treats. And our pecan grower, Angie, has reinvented herself selling beautiful and very tasty Ily macarons. Mariana and Carlos of 109 Coffee have become a mainstay of our weekly market, featuring beans grown on small family farms in Columbia, allowing the farmers a larger share of the profits by banding together through a co-op that best represents their hard work.

I have pivoted a bit and along with the ever-popular taco stand, I have started to bring more take away meals. I am also now transitioning to cooking burgers at my after-market BYOB Café. And by the time this is published, I may be located across the street at Decant Urban Winery's new green space. This opportunity will allow me to flex my culinary muscles and offer dishes other than tacos and burgers, like crab cakes, seared beef tartar, shrimp pane, and other bistro inspired items. As their build out continues, I'll add entrees like a seared ribeye or stuffed Cornish game hen dinner for two.

As always, "Come soon, come often, and enjoy some baby goat love."



832.981.7500
WWW.INDYQUEST.NET

*Around the corner in the
heart of Garden Oaks*

RESPONSIVE REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS



CRESTON INDERRIEDEN
BROKER | GRI | CNE | SRES
creston@indyquest.net



HOLLY INDERRIEDEN
MANAGER | MBA | REALTOR®
holly@indyquest.net

THE NEW YEAR BRINGS

NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

Take your first steps on the path
to financial freedom.



VERDE
WEALTH GROUP™

Evolving Your Wealth with a
personalized, holistic financial plan.

info@verdewealth.com | 713.929.3250 | verdewealth.com

Fee-Based Planning offered through Verde Wealth Group TM, LLC a State Registered Investment Advisor. Third Party Money Management. Offered Through Valmark Advisers, Inc., a SEC Registered Investment Advisor, Securities offered through Valmark Securities, Inc. Member FINRA, SIPC. 130 Springside Drive, Suite 300 Akron, Ohio 44333-24311-800-765-5201. Verde Wealth Group TM, LLC is a separate entity from Valmark Securities, Inc. and Valmark Advisers, Inc.



Get to the Root Cause of Your Health Conditions

Specializing in:

- Digestive Issues
- Fatigue
- Sleep Disturbances
- Mood Swings
- Hormonal Imbalances
- Fertility
- Weight Issues
- Auto Immune Conditions
- Aches & Pains
- and More!



Erin Thole, CNHP
Certified Natural Healthcare Practitioner



Reach Your **TRUE** Health Potential With:
Food Sensitivity, Hormonal, Toxicity, and Nutritional Deficiency Panels
Nutritional Programs & More

Set up your **FREE CONSULTATION** by emailing: thole.erin@gmail.com
To learn how Erin has helped others just like you visit: www.ErinThole.com

Common Reasons Your A/C Could Quit

Mitch Weigand

In a few months, summer will officially be here. This is the time of year that your A/C system works the hardest and has the greatest chance for failure.

The most common issues we see include:

1. Lack of proper routine maintenance. Keeping your A/C system well-maintained is absolutely critical if you want to avoid a breakdown. The first step is to have a spring check-up to inspect the entire system. A well-maintained A/C unit uses less energy to cool your house; lower energy usage can mean big savings on your monthly utility bill.
2. Not replacing your filter when it's dirty. Changing the air filter is the most important task a homeowner can perform. Make sure you replace the filter once a month. I cannot emphasize this enough.
3. Leaks that allow freon to escape. Freon (refrigerant) is the lifeblood of your A/C system. Operating properly, it does not lose freon. The only time you will need to have

freon added is if there's a leak or your system was undercharged to begin with. Did you know if your system is short just one pound of freon (that's about 10% overall), your electrical bill can increase nearly \$50 per month?

4. The A/C system gets overworked. With 100 degree days and 90-plus percent humidity, there's no doubt your system will have to work extremely hard. It can lead to problems like tripped circuit breakers, blown capacitors, and more. Help ease your system's workload by raising the temperature in your home to 80 degrees while at work, keeping curtains closed to avoid sunlight heating up the indoor air, and having realistic expectations regarding your indoor temperature. Don't expect your home to be 65 degrees inside while it's 95 degrees outside.

5. The system is old and past its prime. Most home A/C systems in Houston last about 10 years, and summer puts tremendous strains on them. If your system is old, consider installing a brand-new system before it fails. This will prevent breakdowns at the most critical time of the year, and make your home more comfortable and very likely lower your monthly electric bill.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™

Garden Oak homeowner for over 25 years



Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

Here's what our customers are saying about us:

“Mitch is incredibly knowledgeable.”

Alia M., Pinemont Plaza

★★★★★ "Mitch from Air Wise AC is professionally and friendly, not to mention incredibly knowledgeable.

He was able to explain what was wrong with our heating unit and how to fix the issue. I would recommend him to anyone with heating or A/C issues."



Air Wise™
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

713/231-2222

Service checks • Full installs
Emergency service day & night
www.airwisehouston.com

License #TACLA020081C • Regulated by the Texas Dept. of Licensing & Regulation

APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 People won't have time for you if you are always angry or complaining. — Stephen Hawking	29	30	31	1 April Fools' Day	2 Good Friday	3 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
4 Easter	5	6 Civic Club Meeting 7 pm Online via Zoom	7	8	9	10 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
<i>Dark Sky Week — See page 15</i>						
11	12	13 Beginning of Ramadan	14	15 NOT Tax Day Gazette Article Deadline	16	17 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

DEANNA
ZUGHERI
GARDENOAKSHOMES.COM



"I KNOW GARDEN OAKS AND THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY."

kw. metropolitan
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

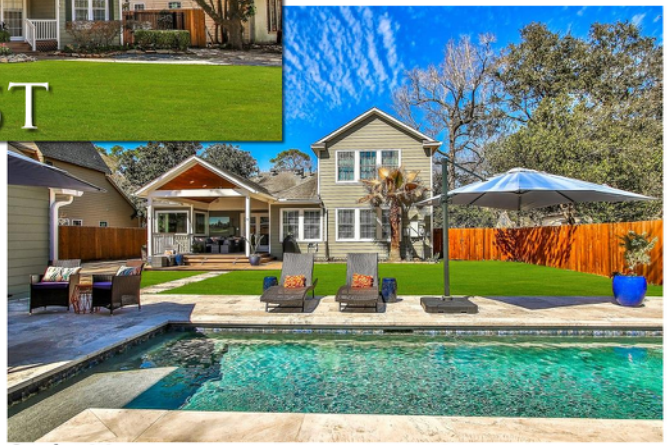
kw. LUXURY HOMES INTERNATIONAL
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

CLHMS
MILLION DOLLAR GUILD



519 W 31ST

JUST LISTED



CALL ME ABOUT THIS OR OTHER GREAT LISTINGS IN GARDEN OAKS.

Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com ~ 281.658.4514